

Message Text

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TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN HANNA PLEADS GUILTY

1. CONGRESSMAN RICHARD HANNA PLED GUILTY MARCH 17, THUS
OBTAINING THE TRIAL WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT
WEEK. SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH REARRAIGNMENT OF THE DEFENDANT,
JUSTICE HAS RELEASED 33-PAGE SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S
PROOF IN THIS CASE, PLEA AGREEMENT BETWEEN HANNA AND
JUSTICE, AND COPIES OF MANY LETTERS WRITTEN BY HANNA TO
U.S. AND ROK OFFICIALS.

2. GOVERNMENT STATEMENT OF CASE AND HANNA'S SIGNED
ADMISSIONS BOTH PORTRAY HANNA AS ASKING THEN KCIA DIRECTOR
KIM HYONG-UK TO APPOINT TONGSUN PARK AS KOREAN RICE AGENT
AND SUBSEQUENTLY LOBBYING HEAVILY WITH ROK OFFICIALS TO
KEEP PARK'S POSITION FROM RIVAL CLAIMANTS TO THE LUCRATIVE
BROKERAGE BUSINESS. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF INTRODUCTORY
SECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFER OF PROOF. FULL DOCUMENT
AND ASSOCIATED EXHIBITS FOLLOW BY POUCH. SET ALSO PROVIDED
AS COURTESY TO ROK EMBASSY HERE TODAY.
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BEGIN TEXT:

3. IN SUMMARY, THE GOVERNMENT'S CASE-IN-CHIEF WOULD HAVE
SHOWN THE FOLLOWING:

FORMER CONGRESSMAN RICHARD T. HANNA, TOGETHER WITH TONG SUN PARK, ENTERED INTO A CORRUPT AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO OBTAIN FOR PARK COMMISSIONS FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT-SUBSIDIZED SALE OF UNITED STATES RICE AND, IN RETURN FOR A SHARE OF THE COMMISSIONS, TO ACT FOR AND ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THUS, IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH THEN KCIA DIRECTOR KIM HYUNG WOOK WHICH CULMINATED IN AN AUGUST 1968 MEETING, HANNA AND PARK PROPOSED THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DESIGNATE PARK AS RICE AGENT. IN RETURN HANNA AND PARK PROMISED TO USE COMMISSION MONEY TO INFLUENCE OTHER CONGRESSMEN. THEY FURTHER AGREED BETWEEN THEMSELVES TO SHARE COMMISSION PROCEEDS. KIM HYUNG WOOK WAS SUCCESSFUL ON THE KOREAN SIDE AND HANNA AND PARK WERE SUCCESSFUL IN THE UNITED STATES IN GETTING PARK DESIGNATED AS RICE AGENT.

THEREAFTER, HANNA WORKED TO MAINTAIN THE RICE AGENCY FOR PARK AND TO HELP PARK REGAIN THAT AGENCY AFTER BEING DISPLACED BY A RIVAL KOREAN RICE BROKER, AND THEREBY, TO OBTAIN COMMISSION MONEY FOR HIMSELF. HANNA'S ROLE WAS TO LEGITIMIZE PARK'S CLAIM TO KOREAN OFFICIALS THAT HE HAD INFLUENCE OVER AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN. THEREFORE, HANNA CONTINUALLY REPORTED TO KOREAN OFFICIALS HIS OWN AND PARK'S ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF KOREA AND IN THIS WAY UNCLASSIFIED

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STRENGTHENED THE CLAIM THAT IT WAS IN THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING INTEREST TO MAINTAIN PARK AS THE PREFERRED AGENT IN RICE SALES TO KOREA. HANNA ALSO HAD A ROLE IN THE FINANCING OF PARK'S GEORGETOWN CLUB AND IN HOSTING PARTIES THERE FOR OTHER CONGRESSMEN AT PARK'S REQUEST. THE CLUB WAS THE BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR THE CONSPIRACY AND A PLACE WHERE PROMINENT CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WOULD BE ACCESSIBLE FOR LOBBYING BY PARK AND HANNA AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

HANNA CONDUCTED VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND OF TONG SUN PARK. IN 1969 HANNA WAS THE INITIATOR AND MOVING FORCE BEHIND A GOODWILL TRIP TO KOREA BY A CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HEADED BY HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER CARL ALBERT. SUCH TRIPS WERE SEEN AS A METHOD OF INDUCING CONGRESSMEN TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION FAVORABLE TO KOREA, A METHOD THE KOREANS LABELED "INVITATION DIPLOMACY." PERIODICALLY, HANNA AND PARK SOUGHT TO HAVE OTHER CONGRESSMEN WRITE KOREAN OFFICIALS OF

THE AID AND INFLUENCE OF TONG SUN PARK. IN 1974 WHEN THE

SUBCOMMITTEES ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS AND ON INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTED JOINT HEARINGS INTO THE ALLEGED SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HANNA, TOGETHER WITH PARK, ORGANIZED A PRO-KOREAN EFFORT, WHICH TOOK THE FORM OF A NUMBER OF PRO-KOREAN STATEMENTS WHICH WERE SUBMITTED TO THE HEARINGS BY HANNA AND OTHER CONGRESSMEN. PARK AND HANNA PREPARED THE STATEMENTS AND HANNA SUBMITTED HIS AND DISTRIBUTED THE OTHERS TO VARIOUS CONGRESSMEN, WHOM HE HAD SOLICITED TO PARTICIPATE. HANNA ALSO CONTACTED VARIOUS EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND OF PARK.

IN RETURN FOR HIS EFFORTS, HANNA RECEIVED MANY BENEFITS.
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HE RECEIVED IN EXCESS OF \$200,000 IN CASH AND CHECKS BETWEEN 1969 AND THE END OF 1975. HE ALSO WAS GIVEN THE USE OF A CADILLAC FOR A YEAR WITHOUT CHARGE. PARK PAID FOR A HANNA CAMPAIGN FUND-RAISER, CONTRIBUTED MONEY TO HANNA'S 1970 CAMPAIGN, SOLICITED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO HANNA AND PICKED UP HANNA'S EXPENSES ON HANNA'S MANY TRIPS TO KOREA. PARK PAID HANNA'S INITIATION FEE AND FIRST YEAR DUES AT THE GEORGETOWN CLUB. WHEN HANNA HAD DIFFICULTY SELLING HIS HOUSE, PARK BOUGHT IT AND THEN PROVIDED HANNA WITH FREE ROOM AND BOARD AT HIS OWN HOUSE FOR ABOUT 4-6 MONTHS. PARK GAVE HANNA VALUABLE FURNITURE AND ORIENTAL ARTIFACTS. END TEXT
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